(b) The issue of comprehensive Environment Impact Assessment study in Bellary-Hospct region was taken up with the Ministry of Mines. They have informed that their Ministry as well as the Ministry of Steel are quite concerned about the need to enforce scientific mining in this region and it has been decided that a joint team of the Directorate of Mines and Geology. Government of Karnataka and Indian Bureau of Mines would be earning out a detailed study of the Bellary-Hospct area and would suggest policy guidelines for renewal or grant of new mining leases in the area for further consideration by the Government.

In view of the above, the Karnataka Government has accordingly been informed on 1-5-2001. that separate study is not required.

Fishing Villages Affected due to Oil Leakage Off Bombay Harbour

4337. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an oil leak from the ONGC. LPG and crude oil terminal off Bombay harbour has affected fishing villages around the coast of Konkan:

(b) if so. the details of loss caused by it; and

(c) what steps have been taken to avoid such a tragedy in future?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) An incident of minor spillage of crude oil has been reported at ONGCs Uran Plant on 1 st May. 2001. No adverse effect on the fishing villages or marine life has been noticed. To prevent recurrence of such leakage, measures such as creation of additional bund in the crude oil tank area and provision of additional oil traps in the storm water channels of ONGC have been taken up.

Pcrmisson for Storage of Hazardous Materials

† 4338. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi High Court has strongly criticised Government for giving permission for storage and construction related activities of hazardous materials, by amending Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.